



Brownfields 2003 Grant Fact Sheet

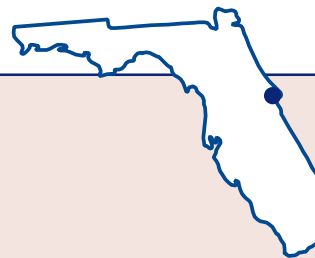
Cocoa, FL

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Cocoa was selected to receive an assessment grant. This city of 16,400 residents is working to revitalize the state-designated Cocoa Enterprise Zone (EZ). Rapid population growth in neighboring cities has resulted in the widening of primary transportation routes cutting through the city. This has forced many businesses in the area to relocate. The population within the EZ is declining and the housing stock that was constructed nearly 40 years ago has deteriorated. Abandoned, blighted, and potentially contaminated properties are deterring private developers and lowering property values. EZ residents have a poverty rate of 39 percent and an unemployment rate of 12 percent. The city's EZ Strategic Planning Committee, which



Assessment Grant

New
2003

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Cocoa for a brownfields assessment grant. The city is focusing on its state-designated Cocoa Enterprise Zone (EZ) with this grant. Grant funds will be used to determine the number and type of brownfield sites in the EZ, develop a quality assurance management plan, conduct seven Phase I assessments on sites selected with community input, complete limited Phase II assessments of five sites, conduct one entire Phase II assessment, and complete ten asbestos and lead-based paint surveys.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 4 Brownfields Team
404-562-8661
<http://www.epa.gov/region4/waste/bf/index.htm>

Grant Recipient: City of Cocoa, FL
321-639-7557

Prior to receipt of these funds in fiscal year 2003, the City of Cocoa has not received brownfields grant funding.

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

includes local residents and businesses, is working to reverse the downward economic and social trends and ensure the sustainable redevelopment of the area.